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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 MCT-01
SY-05 /073 W

-----180251 082720 /20

R 171536Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9147

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 1296

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, AR
SUBJECT: THREE DIE IN ERP-POLICE GUNBATTLE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s): _____
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full
☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to ____
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

1. TWO EXTREMISTS AND ONE POLICEMAN WERE KILLED AND SIX
POLICE AND ONE EXTREMIST WERE INJURED IN A FIVE-HOUR GUNBATTLE
IN A BUENOS AIRES RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT YESTERDAY (FEBRUARY 15).
THE INCIDENT OCCURRED A FEW BLOCKS FROM THE HOME OF THE U.S.
CHARGE D'AFFAIRES. REPORTEDLY THE INCIDENT BEGAN WHEN FIVE
PERSONS REFUSED TO STOP FOR A POLICE IDENTIFICATION CHECK,
OPENED FIRE ON POLICE AND SPED AWAY IN THEIR CAR. POLICE
CHASED THEM IN A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE THE EXTREMISTS
ABANDONED THEIR CAR, AND BROKE INTO AND BARRICADED THEMSELVES
IN PRIVATE HOME. REINFORCEMENTS WERE CALLED IN, INCLUDING
TWO HELICOPTERS, TANKS, AND ARMORED CAR, EXPLOSIVE EXPERTS AND
ARMY TROOPS WHO CONTINUED TO PERUSUE EXTREMISTS AS THEY MOVED
FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE. EVENTUALLY, POLICE CORNERED THE EXTREM-
ISTS IN A HOUSE, KILLING TWO AND WOUNDING A THIRD WHO WAS
ARRESTED. THE OTHERS MANAGED TO ESCAPE.
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